

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence gave the following remarks today at a GOP Leadership press conference:

"The American people want health care reform that lowers the cost of health insurance without growing the size of government. But what's being forced through the Congress, as we speak, is a government takeover of health care. It will mandate that every American purchase health insurance, whether they want it or need it or not. It'll impose massive new bureaucracy and taxes on working families, small businesses and family farms and the American people overwhelmingly oppose it. It is Washington at its worst.

"The reality is that this legislation represents the kind of elitist attitude, the "We know better than you attitude" that the American people are sick and tired of. It is truly astonishing that the Speaker of the House said yesterday, here in Washington, D.C., that we need to "pass the bill so we can find out what's in it." Madam Speaker, the American people know what's in this bill and they don't want it.

"The reality is that we can come together and pass the kind of incremental, step by step reforms that will lower the cost of health insurance by allowing Americans to purchase health insurance across health lines and that'll lower the cost of health care by passing reasonable limits on medical malpractice cases. We can even deal with the difficult issue of pre-existing conditions by using savings to strengthen state funds. But it all begins with stopping this bill. We implore our colleagues in the House: Listen to the American people, reject this government takeover of health care and we will work with you on behalf of the American people to achieve health care reform that'll meet their desires and reflect their values."

The press conference can be viewed [HERE](#) :

Speaker Pelosi's comments can be viewed [HERE](#) :